TL 1149

A CHORUS ALBUM

FOR

PEACE ON EARTH WITH LOVE

KOINONIA

- κοινωνια -

JESUS, NAME ABOVE ALL NAMES

PEACE ON EARTH

ROCKY, HURRICANE!

YESHUA

MAUBERE

PRAYER OF ST. FRANCIS

NKOSI SIKELEL'I AFRIKA

- An amateur family chorus -

The Gospel Family

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SCRIPTURE IN SONG: "Jesus, Name Above All Names" composed by Naida Hearn, © copyright 1974.

THE MESSENGERS, HOSANNA MUSIC CO., LTD. : The adaptation in Japanese from "Jesus, Name Above All Names" by Patricia Cain in "The Praise Album" published by Maranatha! Music.

RADHA WARDROP: The two additional stanzas to "Peace on Earth."

SHINGO TAKASUGI : "Rocky, Hurricane!" composed on March 25, 1989.

FRANCISCAN COMMUNICATIONS: "Prayer of St. Francis" composed by Sebastian Temple, arranged by Betty C. Pulkingham and adapted by Sebastian Temple, copyright © 1968.

MASAO OKUYAMA: "Prayer" adapted in Japanese from "Prayer of St. Francis."

FR. MARY DONNON : The additional words in Japanese to the tune of "Jesus, Name Above All Names" and "Yeshua" translated into Japanese by him.

JOSE GUSMAO and JOSE GUTERRES: "Maubere."

ANC TOKYO OFFICE and JAAC TOKYO: "NKOSI SIKELEL'I AFRIKA."

This Chorus Album

- KOINONIA -

Dedicated to those people who are suffering and oppressed.

All the proceeds
go to support for their liberation
and for the efforts of the groups,
in Japan and abroad,
working for human rights
based upon
freedom, equality and love.

- An amateur family chorus -

The Gospel Family

'KOINONIA'

The Mommas could not have chosen a more appropriate name for this newly released cassette. "Koinonia," a word taken from the Bible, means "fellowship," and fits perfectly the spirit of the Gospel Family, as the Mommas call themselves.

The koinonia expressed in these songs on the theme of peace is no abstract idea; it is vividly concrete. The songs call for justice in relationships between people, they call for relationships of humility in the face of truth. These messages come across so vividly because of the importance of koinonia in the Mommas' own committed lives, and because of their deep sensitivity to others.

These songs are a resounding "No!" to "the many things that occur in this world which should never be," realities which the Mommas have come to know of through their encounters with others. There is a tenderness in the songs which reflect the Momma's approach to the world: "You can go through life ignoring the reality around you. You can live comfortably like that, but you won't be at peace. You feel empty. Something is missing. That's why we want to sing, together with people who have the courage to look reality in the eye."

In each of the songs on this cassette there is anger at "things which should never be" and a call to bring fellowship, true sharing, alive in the world.

Masaki and Sachie's "maturity" blends with Manaki and Naoki's "youth," and male and female voices join in a harmonious whole. I hope that many people will come to share this music and that a rich koinonia will grow from it.

Munetoshi Maejima
General Secretary
National Christian Council

JESUS,
NAME ABOVE ALL NAMES

Jesus,
Name above all names,
Beautiful Savior,
Glorious Lord,
Emmanuel – God is with us,
Blessed Redeemer,
Living Word.

Patricia Cain

Give us, O Lord,
Peace, love, joy
And one in mind in our family.

Fr. Mary Donnon

PEACE ON EARTH

Words & Music: Anonymous

Peace, peace, peace.
Peace on earth.
Peace, peace, peace,
For all the universe.

Additional Verses: Radha Wardrop

Love, love, love.
Love on earth.
Love, love, love,
For all the universe.

Joy, joy, joy.
Joy on earth.
Joy, joy, joy,
For all the universe.

New Zealand - land of sheep, kiwifruit, rugby and a "nuclear-free" policy. In 1984, the Labor government declared the country nuclear-free and has been refusing port calls by ships it has reason to suspect are either nuclear powered or nuclear armed. This policy continues today, despite pressure from the United States. There are no nuclear power plants in New Zealand, either. In 1987, "Nuclear Free Legislation" was passed in New Zealand's parliament and its stance now has a firm legal base.

This was achieved after a long grass roots campaign beginning in the 1960s. The government itself sent a frigate to Moruroa protesting the French nuclear tests. In the 70s, a "Peace Squadron" consisting of many small boats, yachts and canoes repeatedly protested incoming nuclear ships. In the 80s, a "nuclear-free zone" movement flourished all over New Zealand. Now 72% of the population lives in nuclear-free zones, and 70% of the populace supports the nuclear-free policy.

"Peace on Earth" is quite popular in New Zealand because of its simple and beautiful melody. Radha Wardrop is a woman singer-songwriter who has composed many songs with a spiritual quality. She lives in the country in South Island, New Zealand.

Noriko Senda
New Zealand Network

ROCKY, HURRICANE!

Words & Music: Shingo Takasugi
Arrangment: The Gospel Family

Phoenix, fly up from the hard walls
with dark clouds.
Fly home for the Tenryu Valley
Like an arrow in flight.

(Refrain)
Rocky, Hurricane, link up in friendship!
That will overcome darkness someday.

Phoenix, hear Mother pray for the innocent.
Where there is Mother,
there is a special home,
Sweet Clifton, old New Jersey.

Phoenix, sing with friends,
crying for freedom
That will be fulfilled
All the way to victory.

* Rocky is Iwao Hakamada's English nickname. He was charged with robbery, murder and arson in a case that took place in Shimizu City, Shizuoka Prefecture on June 29, 1961. The victims were an executive of the Kogane Miso Co., his wife and two children. Ever since, Iwao has been asserting his innocence from his Tokyo prison cell.

** "Hurricane" refers to American boxer Hurricane Carter, a world middleweight champion falsely accused in a racially biased case. Carter was declared innocent in February 1988 and freed.

This song was not easy to write. In it I was attempting to express a little bit of what it must feel like to be Iwao Hakamada, a former boxer who has been locked up in a cell for the

past twenty-three years for a crime he didn't commit. Over these years this man, once sixth-ranking featherweight contender in Japan, has waged a daily battle with loneliness and depression. A clue to what has kept him going is provided in these lines from his diary.

"Tonight, once again, I sit in my cell trying to achieve a state of detachment. My head is filled with images of my school days. The cherry trees are pink with blossoms rippling in the breeze..., and beyond them you can glimpse the roof of Gansui Temple ... In the distance the Tenryu River flows along like a white sash... "

One can read between the lines thoughts of the people back home. But what is clearest is the wish to be free, free of the prison walls, free to fly like a bird straight for home!

Whistling and singing are the extent of my musical ability. What I did here was to whistle this song for the Mommas who then wrote down the notes for it. It was Masaki's guitar accompaniment and Sachie's soprano that then breathed life into it.

Iwao Hakamada, whose nickname is Rocky, had long wanted to "link up" with Hurricane Carter, but did not know his whereabouts. Masuya Kokubu, a sports writer for Kyodo News Service, wrote an article, "Letter to Hurricane," that was picked up by the Japan Times and eventually found its way to the American boxer who had also suffered imprisonment on false charges. In a letter conveyed by a friend, Mr. Terence Swinton, Carter said, "I would be very happy to be of help to you. I feel just like you do." That letter finally reached me and then... Iwao in prison. It was a dream come true!

I am absolutely certain that these links will defeat the powers that shamelessly prey on the weak and that Iwao Hakamada will one day be free.

Shingo Takasugi
Defense Committee for Innocent Prisoner,
Former Boxer Iwao Hakamada

YESHUA

Yeshua, Yeshua,
Son of Mary, Son of God,
My Saviour, the God my Lord.

"Yeshua" is the Hebrew for what was later to become Jesu in Latin and Jesus in English. It is a form of Joshua which means "Jehovah is salvation." The basic meaning then of Yeshua is one who saves, but it also has the affinitive significance of one who washes or cleanses, all of which express the role of Jesus.

It is also said that for the Hebrews of old the repeated rush of the waves of the sea onto the shore sounded to them like a constant repetition of the word Yeshua, Yeshua. And this too fits in very well with the role of Jesus who continually washes the shores of our hearts and in this way brings us to salvation.

Fr. Mary Donnon, Family Ministry

MAUBERE

Jose Gusmao
Jose Guterres

Oh, oh, Maubere	Oh, oh, Maubere,
Rai loron ona	Now is the time,
Oh, oh, Maubere	Oh, oh, Maubere,
Hader ona	To wake up!
Manu kokorek	The cock's already sung.
Besik rai naroman	It's almost the day.
Fitun mean sae ona	The red star is rising.
Besik rai naroman	It's almost the day.
Sela kuda la sela	Saddle the horse,
Sela fila atan	Off the yoke of slave.
Sae kuda la sae	Ride the horse,
Sae fila atan	Off the yoke of slave.

"EAST TIMOR"
- A Name with Hope -

East Timor, a small country of 650,000 people, is at war with Indonesia, a country with a population of 170 million. The war has been going on for fourteen years, ever since 1975, when Indonesia invaded East Timor just after the latter declared its independence from Portugal. Some 200,000 people have lost their lives, many of them in the wake of bombing which devastated the countryside. In East Timor, men are forced to go out and kill their fellow Timorese, while women are raped and abused at will by the Indonesian soldiers. The people who live under this alien occupation are robbed of their freedom, their very language has been taken away from them, and they are stripped of their dignity as human beings.

"Maubere" is a song of the people of East Timor in this time of suffering. It is a song of hope in the midst of suffering. The word "Maubere" originally was simply a common man's name, and in the Portuguese colonial times it was used as a term of contempt with the connotation of "stupid Timorese." But with the movement for independence the meaning was turned around to indicate the "proud Timorese." This song has a bright and easy melody but when one thinks about the difficult circumstances of the people who created it, it is very moving.

Every year Timorese come to Japan and speak in various parts of the country to appeal for support for their homeland. Japan is on very good terms with the invader, Indonesia, but far from intervening to persuade Indonesia to stop its aggression, it supports Indonesia and its military regime with enormous economic aid. It is true that Japan buys a lot of oil from Indonesia and sells to Indonesia many manufactured goods. But does that mean that it should be indifferent to what happens to a small country like East Timor? In the words of the East Timorese, "During World War II, Japan occupied Timor and 40,000 Timorese lost their lives. Now, for money, it is again causing us suffering by

helping Indonesian aggression."

But most Japanese do not even know about East Timor. They do not know that Japan once imposed its war on Timor and killed many of its people, or that Japan is supporting behind the scenes the war that is going on there right now. But the Gospel Family, when they learned of the situation in East Timor, wanted to "do something" and decided to start with the song "Maubere." The recording that resulted is not only a first for Japan, but is the first time the song has been recorded anywhere. This small light of hope will surely encourage the people of East Timor in their struggle. Or perhaps I should say that it may well be we Japanese that will be encouraged - encouraged by the hope embodied in the name, "East Timor."

Akihisa Matsuno
Solidarity with Independent East Timor

PRAYER OF ST. FRANCIS

Adaptation and Music: Sebastian Temple

Make me a channel of Your peace.
Where there is hatred, let me bring Your love.
Where there is injury, Your pardon, Lord,
And where there's doubt, true faith in You.

Make me a channel of Your peace.
Where there's despair in life,
let me bring hope.
Where there is darkness, only light,
And where there's sadness, ever joy.

Oh, Master, grant that I may never seek
So much to be consoled as to console,
To be understood as to understand,
To be loved as to love with all my soul.

Make me a channel of Your peace.
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
In giving to all men that we receive,
And in dying that we're born to eternal life.